

From: T. R. MADISON
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 5:14pm
Subject: MICROSOFT SETTLEMENT

Wednesday, 2 January, 2002 @ 5:06PM EST

Dear Sir/Madam:

I wish to comment on the litigation now wending its way through the Department of Justice.

I agree that Microsoft might be considered a monopoly, but I believe they became such by having the best products and best customer service available.

If it hadn't been for Microsoft, Microsoft Windows, and the Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, I doubt that I would have ever become a user of a computer nor have had access to the Internet.

When I got my first computer it came prepackaged with the Netscape browser and I found that just about impossible to master. I then learned that I could download Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser... which I did. Finding it so much better than Netscape, I made Microsoft's IE my default browser. That was my choice; no one forced me to do so!

When Windows 98 was released I upgraded to that system and was delighted to find that Microsoft's Internet Explorer was included. Had I wanted to have Netscape, I could have downloaded that of my own free will (I did not) and Windows 98 could operate with that as the default browser. Microsoft did not prevent me from using Netscape with their Windows 98 OS if I had so chosen.

As a retired person and one who is not to be considered wealthy, I do have an investment in Microsoft through the ownership of shares. To say I have been financially hurt by this litigation would be putting it mildly.

I sincerely hope that the Department of Justice will find for Microsoft and absolve them of wrongdoing. I don't see that they have done anything wrong; they are simply following the capitalist system....which I thought the United States espoused to the fullest.

I hope you will consider my thoughts as this litigation progresses. Thank you.

Sincerely,
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